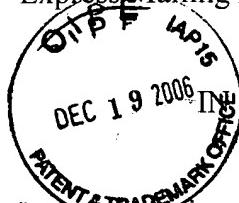


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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No: 13447.46

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

E. Marlowe Goble)
Patent No: 6,994,725 09 | 970,559.)
Issue Date: February 7, 2006) Art Unit
Confirmation No.: 1489) 3738
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
RECONSTRUCTING A LIGAMENT)
Examiner: Javier G. Blanco)

PETITION TO EXCUSE ERROR IN SMALL ENTITY STATUS AND PAYMENT OF
DEFICIENCY OWED PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.28

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The above-identified patent was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 3, 2001 with a claim to small entity status. Small entity payments were made up through issuance of the patent in 2006. Applicant respectfully submits that the small entity status was established in good faith and that the fees as a small entity were paid in good faith. It was subsequently determined, however, that the status of small entity was lost in spring of 2004.

Accordingly, applicant hereby petitions that the error in claiming small entity status be excused

12/21/2006 Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.28(c). Total amount due
SLUANG1 00000008 09970559 1007.14 10
01 FC:1801 00 00 000
02 FC:1253 790.00 OP
03 FC:1253 1020.00 OP
04 FC:1202 1020.00 OP
300.00 OP

12/21/2006 SLUANG2 00000001 09970559
01 FC:1501 1400.00 OP

Set forth below is an itemization of the deficiency payment.

Type of Fee Paid	Date Paid	Current Fee for Non-Small Entity	Small Entity Fee Actually Paid	Difference
RCE Fee	09/20/2004	790	385	405
Extension of Time (3)	09/20/2004	1020	475	545
Extension of Time (3)	05/31/2005	1020	510	510
Excess claim fee	06/21/2005	550	150	400
Issue Fee	11/16/2005	1400	700	700
Deficiency Owed				\$2560

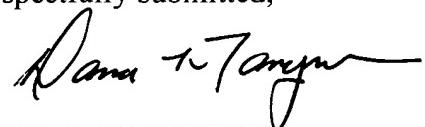
In view of the foregoing, the total deficiency payment owed has been calculated to be \$2,560. It is noted that the excess claim fee should have been paid by applicant at the time of filing the RCE fee on September 20, 2004. Although the fee was unintentionally omitted by the applicant, the Patent Office charge the fee to applicant's deposit account on June 21, 2005.

Enclosed herewith please find Form PTO-2038 submitting the required payment of \$2,560. Applicant has endeavored to determine the deficiency payment with due diligence. If a discrepancy is detected in the calculation of the deficiency payment, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to deduct any further required payment or to apply any overpayment to deposit account no. 23-3178. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Finally, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.28(d), applicant requests that this submission be treated as a notification of loss of entitlement to small entity status.

Dated this 19th day of December 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,246
Customer No. 022913
Telephone: (801) 533-9800
Fax: (801) 328-1707

Adjustment date: 12/21/2006 SLUANG1
09/22/2004 WABDELRI 00000029 09970559
01 FC:2801 -385.00 OP

Adjustment date: 12/21/2006 SLUANG1
09/22/2004 WABDELRI 00000029 09970559
02 FC:2253 -475.00 OP

Adjustment date: 12/21/2006 SLUANG1
06/03/2005 ZJUHAR1 00000009 09970559
01 FC:2253 -510.00 OP

Adjustment date: 12/21/2006 SLUANG1
06/21/2005 LFULTON 00000007 233178 09970559
01 FC:2202 WAL344150.00 CR 0000020909V001.DOC

Adjustment date: 12/21/2006 SLUANG2
11/18/2005 WBERNE1 00000017 09970559
01 FC:2501 -700.00 OP



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10) Applicant/Inventor: E. Marlowe Goble					Docket No. 13447.46
Patent No. 6,994,725	Issue Date 02/07/2006	Confirmation No. 1489	Customer No. 022913	Examiner Blanco	Group Art Unit 3738
Invention: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECONSTRUCTING A LIGAMENT					
<p>I hereby certify that the following are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450.</p>					
<p>DATED this 19th day of December 2006.</p>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Petition to Excuse Error in Small Entity Status and Payment of Deficiency (2 pages)• Form PTO-2038 submitting Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$2,560• Postcard					
<p style="text-align: center;">DANA L. TANGREN</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i></p>					
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dana Tangren</i> <i>(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i></p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">EV 882 547 733 US</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)</i></p>					
<p>W:\13447\46\DFW000020910V001.doc</p>					